

**--CLAIM OF BENEFIT TO PRIOR APPLICATIONS**

The present patent application claims the benefit of the previous U.S. Provisional Patent Application entitled "Method of Implementing Improved Rate Control For A Multimedia Compression And Encoding System", filed on December 16, 2002 and having serial number 60/434,137; and U.S. Provisional Patent Application entitled "Method of Implementing Improved Rate Control For A Multimedia Compression And Encoding System", filed on December 18, 2002 and having serial number 60/434,372.--

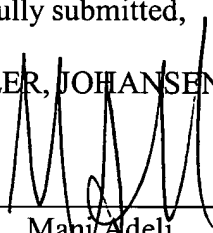
**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment amends the claim of benefit of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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